

KING WILLIAM THE THIRD

And His Times.

A LECTURE.

"It was the heroic defence of Derry and the splendid victory of the Boyne that restored the Protestant cause."--*Hallam.*



DUBLIN: J. CHARLES & SON, HERBERT, McGEE, & C.

BELFAST: MULLAN. LONDONDERRY: GAILEY.

1890.

PRICE SIXPENCE.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

PUBLIC FUNDS

KING WILLIAM THE THIRD

And His Times.

A LECTURE,

By PAUL ASKIN, J.P.,

*Delivered in the City and County of Dublin Conservative Working Men's Club
Rooms, York Street, Dublin, on Thursday Evening,
the 29th of May, 1890.*

WILLIAM JOHNSTON, ESQ., M.P., IN THE CHAIR.

"It was the heroic defence of Derry and the splendid victory of the Boyne that restored the Protestant cause."—*Hallam*.

WITH NOTES AND AN APPENDIX.

DUBLIN: J. CHARLES & SON, HERBERT, MCGEE, &c.
BELFAST: MULLAN. LONDONDERRY: GAILEY.

1890.

RB DA990.U46 A79 1820₁
Acc. 95-351

KING WILLIAM THE THIRD.

MR. CHAIRMAN, BROTHER MEMBERS, AND FRIENDS,

I was glad when I heard that the present course of Lectures was to include one on

“KING WILLIAM THE THIRD, AND HIS TIMES,”

a subject which I consider so very appropriate just now, this being the year in which our “Separatist” Corporation, whether from mere policy, as some think (the separatists being rather upon their good behaviour of late), or whether they found that—as the custodians and guardians of our public monuments they were bound to do so—this being the year, I say, in which the Corporation, whatever may have been their motive, have had repaired and renovated the equestrian statue of OUR GREAT DELIVERER, which was erected in College Green in the year 1701, on the eleventh anniversary of the glorious victory of the BOYNE, that ever memorable battle, which took place on the first of July, 1690, and of which the first of next July will be the TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

“King WILLIAM the Third and his Times,” is a subject to do justice to which would require much higher gifts than I can lay claim to, and should have been entrusted to abler hands than mine, but as no one else had offered to take it up, I yielded to the wish of the Committee that I should bring it before you as best I could, and in doing so I now crave your kind indulgence, and also your patient attention, my subject being, as you are aware, an historical one.

To form an adequate conception of “the man and his time,” we must patiently and quietly study his history, indeed we cannot properly understand or appreciate the character of WILLIAM THE THIRD unless we know, and take into account the history of the times in which he lived.

But of course in the brief period usually allotted for a lecture, it will be impossible for me to give more than a mere sketch of the life and times of that truly great and good king.

WILLIAM HENRY DE NASSAU,* Prince of Orange, and afterwards King of England, was descended from a long line of as great

* Nassau was a county or province of Germany which was owned by the ancient family or House of Nassau, but whether the territory derived its name from the family or the family from the territory is uncertain.

The title “Prince of Orange” was derived from the City and Principality of Orange, situate in Provence in France, which came into the Nassau family by devise in the sixteenth century.

and gallant Princes as ever reigned in England.* He was the son of William the Second of Orange, and Mary eldest daughter of Charles the First of England. His father was a prince of extreme courage and firmness. He died of fever in October, 1650, when only in the 24th year of his age. The shock was too much for the Princess to bear, and early in the following month she was prematurely delivered of a son!

The 4th of November, 1650, was the day which gave to Europe one of the most astonishing characters that ever figured on its theatre. The illustrious personage who in after life made haughty France bow her proud neck, and who also, under God, delivered Ireland from Popery, slavery, and arbitrary power, "brass money, and wooden shoes."

The state of the affairs, both public and private, of this distinguished personage was at this early period anything but favourable, difficulties beset him, even in his cradle, and it required all the sagacity and resolution of his riper years to restore the honours of his house, and preserve the independence of his country.

The alliance of his family with the Stuarts excited the jealousy of Oliver Cromwell, and by his influence the young prince and his descendants were declared to be excluded from the Stadtholdership of the united provinces.† A numerous party led by Pensionary John DeWitt, a vehement opponent of the young prince's late father, WILLIAM THE SECOND, succeeded in having an assembly of the States convened at the Hague on the 18th of March, 1651, when a resolution to that effect was passed.

The House of Orange had, however, a powerful party in its favour, and ultimately a war broke out between England and Holland which ended disastrously for the latter country.

In 1660, Louis the XIV. of France seized the Principality of Orange, and notwithstanding various remonstrances he held possession of it until the year 1665 when it was restored to its owner, WILLIAM Prince of Orange, and its inhabitants swore allegiance to their rightful sovereign, under whose benign and fostering rule the kingdom sprang into national prosperity. In fact WILLIAM's genius made him the people's darling, so that he was unanimously declared to be Captain-General and Admiral of all their forces by land and sea.

Nothing remarkable occurred in the affairs of the prince until 1668, when at length his enemies succeeded in procuring an order from the

* The House of Nassau was hoary with glory and renown when many other dynasties were laying their foundation stones. On the 1st of May, 1292, Adolphus de Nassau—a man of heroic character and undoubted bravery—was elected Emperor of Germany. But we can go farther back than this, for Otho, Count de Nassau, was General of the Imperial Army in 926; from this period to 1494 were fourteen descents, at which time John III. represented the illustrious family. Henry, William, and Rene successively swayed the sceptre, and the latter having no issue bequeathed his extensive territories to William, the then Prince of Orange, AD. 1534.

† The Governor or principal Ruler of Holland was called "Stadtholder," and the Prime Minister "Pensionary."

States for his removal from his house at the Hague, where he, his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, had always resided, and which, therefore, he was naturally so very unwilling to leave that, although then only in his 18th year he, with the spirit becoming one of his lineage, returned for answer "that he could not consent to leave that house till he should be forced out of it."

It was then not deemed prudent to pursue the matter further.

The restoration of the Stuarts in England greatly improved the prospects of the young prince ; De Witt's popularity declined, and in 1672 WILLIAM was chosen Stadtholder of Holland, he being then only 22 years of age.

His character at this period has been thus described :—" Silent and thoughtful, given to hear and to enquire, of a sound and steady understanding, firm in what he once resolved or once denied, strongly intent on business, little on pleasure ; by these virtues he engaged the attention of all men."

The Republic was at this time carrying on an apparently hopeless war with its powerful neighbour Louis the XIV. of France. But, by the wisdom and determination of the young Stadtholder, the contest, which lasted for nearly seven years, was, in 1678, terminated by the treaty of Nimeguin, in a manner highly advantageous and honourable for the United Provinces. A few years before, their ruin had seemed inevitable, and the fame of WILLIAM became great over Europe.

Shortly before this event, viz., on the 4th of November (his birthday), in the year 1677, when he was exactly 27, he had married his cousin, Princess Mary, eldest daughter of the Duke of York, afterwards James the Second of England. By this marriage WILLIAM attained a power and an eminence that he otherwise scarcely could have had. It is recorded that the French King was stupefied when he heard of it. Lord Montague, the French Ambassador, said " he [Louis] received the news of the marriage as he would have done the loss of an army."

His Highness, the Prince of Orange, now stood forward before the Christian world as the champion of an open Bible, and the deadly opponent of Romish error and French arrogance.

The Prince and Princess embarked for Holland on the 19th of November, carrying with them the blessings and good wishes of all Protestants.

Their public entry into the Hague was extremely imposing and magnificent. Thousands of citizens were drawn up in arms, the public pathways profusely and tastefully adorned with flowers, and twenty-four young maidens walked on each side of the royal carriage dressed in white, and singing the song of freedom.

In February, 1685, Charles the Second, King of England, died, and on the 6th of the same month his brother, that horrible bigot James the Second, ascended the throne with a firm determination to re-establish Popery throughout the empire ; *but he miscarried !*

for God discomfited him, and brought all his wicked devices to nought. This will be seen as we proceed.

The following year WILLIAM became the head of a league formed among the Protestant Princes of Germany, the Kings of Spain, Sweden, and others, having for its object to curb the power of Louis the XIV. The treaty by which this alliance was constituted was signed at Augsburg in July, 1686.

In England the tyranny of James was now beginning to estrange from him the affections of every class of his subjects. He had recourse to the most injudicious measures to render Popery the established religion of his dominions. The encroachments he made upon both the civil and religious liberties of his people were disapproved of even by the Pope himself and all moderate Roman Catholics.*

The first check which his tyranny received was the noble stand made by seven of the best of England's Bishops. These signed an humble petition to James against Romish aggressions, which they presented to him in person. When he read their petition he became furious, and said "this is rebellion!" and committed them for trial to the Tower.†

The Protestant spirit was by this aroused. Trelawney the Bishop of Bristol being one of the seven, a large body of Cornish men marched through the streets and proclaimed their resolution thus :

"And shall Trelawney die? and shall Trelawney die?"

A hundred thousand Cornish men will know the reason Why!"

The Bishops, however, were acquitted, and the verdict of "not guilty" elicited the most unbounded enthusiasm.

This abortive prosecution of the seven Bishops, his dismissal of the Judges who acquitted them, and his arbitrary imprisonment of several of the English nobility, brought matters with James to a crisis.

And now the eyes of all were turning towards the Stadtholder—WILLIAM, Prince of Orange—as, under Almighty God, their only hope. Our HERO willingly responded, and having made all necessary preparations, he at length, on the 20th of October 1688, embarked for England with a fleet consisting of 52 men of war, 25 frigates, and between three and four hundred smaller vessels, for the conveyance of his army, which included Count Nassau, Count de Zolmes, Duke Schomberg, and other eminent personages.

* No King of England ever ascended the throne with greater advantages than James the Second. All these advantages however, were lost upon him, and served him in no way, except to hasten his ruin; he was deaf to every admonition, and blind to all his true interests. Even the Pope himself became alarmed, advised him to act cautiously, and warned him against such arbitrary measures, as did also the Spanish Ambassador. But King James was not to be warned, *absolute* he was determined to be!

† Their names were—Sancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury; Lloyd, Bishop of St. Asaph; Kenn, of Bath and Wells; Turner, Bishop of Ely; Lake, of Chichester; White, of Peterborough; and Trelawney, of Bristol.

His coming was with the avowed and settled purpose of restoring Church and State to their true rights ; and on the 5th of November he landed at Torbay in Devonshire with an army of 15,000 men, composed of English and Dutch.

The ship which bore his Highness to the shores of England had an orange flag flying at the mast head, with the motto (which has always led to Victory) "THE PROTESTANT RELIGION, AND THE LIBERTIES OF ENGLAND—I WILL MAINTAIN."*

Here I may be allowed to mention a matter of personal interest to myself—Some twenty years ago when on a summer tour in the south of England, I took particular care to pay a visit to Torbay, and I had the happiness of standing on the very spot on which King WILLIAM the Third first stood when he landed in England on the 5th of November, 1688.

After a rest of a day or two the Prince moved with his Army to Exeter, and afterwards to York, Salisbury, and Reading, on his way to London. His success was rapid and bloodless, men of influence of all parties welcomed him, and gave him their presence and support. On the 18th of December following, James left Whitehall for France, and on the same day WILLIAM entered London triumphantly as the "National Deliverer." His popularity increased daily. He confirmed the "Bill of Rights," by which the liberties of the people were secured, and the rescue and preservation of religion and public liberty progressed gradually and surely.†

On the 22nd of January, 1689, both Houses of Parliament met at Westminster and declared as follows—"That King James the Second having endeavoured to subvert the Constitution of the Kingdom by breaking the original contract between the King and the people, and by the advice of Jesuits and other wicked persons having violated the fundamental laws, and withdrawn himself out of the Kingdom, hath abdicated the Government, and that the throne is thereby become Vacant—it is resolved: that the Prince and Princess of Orange be, and are hereby declared KING and QUEEN of ENGLAND and all the Dominions thereunto belonging." And on the 11th of April following their Majesties were crowned with great pomp and magnificence. Scotland also having previously declared for them in the following clear and decisive manner.

At the Convention of the Estates of Scotland which met at Edinburgh on the 14th of March, 1689, the Resolution, which was afterwards embodied in an Act, that the Crown of Scotland should be settled in the same manner as the Crown of England, was carried unanimously, Queensberry and Athol (of James's party) voting for it, upon the

* *Je Maintiendrai* (I will maintain) being the Prince's family motto.

† The Revolution of 1688—a change so remedial, and accomplished with so little cost of suffering—was a necessity, not a caprice ; in fact, it was Restoration, or Renovation, rather than Revolution.

ground that, if James were removed, WILLIAM would be his appropriate successor. The exact words of the Resolution as given by Harris are—"That King James being a professed Papist, did assume the Royal power and acted as King without ever taking the oath required by law, and had by the advice of evil and wicked counsellors invaded the fundamental Constitution of this kingdom, and altered it from a legal and limited monarchy to an arbitrary and despotic power, and had governed the same to the subversion of the PROTESTANT RELIGION, and violation of the laws and liberties of the Nation, inverting all the ends of Government, whereby he had forfeited the Crown, and the Throne was become vacant." The Convention then, headed by Hamilton their President, went forth in procession to the High Street, attended by the Lord Provost and Heralds, and proclaimed with sound of trumpet WILLIAM and MARY as *King and Queen of Scotland*.

Roman Catholic *Ireland*, however—or rather I should say the majority of the Irish people, as you count heads, being Roman Catholic—preferred James to WILLIAM. They of course espoused the cause of James and thought they would make it the occasion for a new attempt to gain independence by the aid of France. James having heard of this, and receiving an urgent request from Tyrconnell, his Lord Deputy in Ireland, to "come over in person or all was lost," he on Tuesday the 12th of March, 1689, arrived from France at Kinsale, with some 1,800 men. The Lord Deputy met him at Cork, and to show his sense of Tyrconnell's zeal in his service, James conferred on him the title of "Duke of Tyrconnell."

On Sunday, the 24th of March, James entered Dublin with all practicable pomp, Tyrconnell carrying the sword of State before him. He rode on a nag, and was dressed in a plain cloth suit, and black slouching hat. When he reached the Castle gate he was met by a train of four Romish Bishops bearing the Host, and attended by a procession of Clergy headed by the Roman Catholic Primate with a triple crown upon his head, whereupon King James alighted from his horse and went down upon his knees to obtain his blessing! The next day he called a council and issued several proclamations, one of which was summoning the Irish Parliament to destroy the Act of Settlement, and he issued writs for them to sit at Dublin, May the 7th, 1689.*

Note here the providence of God who controls and governs all events. Instead of Dublin, if they had turned their attention to Derry, which was at this time besieged, that town and many others in that direction might have been taken before relief could have arrived, and Ireland was their own.

* This Parliament was composed almost entirely of Roman Catholics. Only six Protestants were returned to it. James made no secret of his Roman Catholicism, for he began his reign with a frank and open profession of his religion, and the first Sunday after his Accession he went publicly to mass; he also obliged Father Huddleston who attended his brother Charles (Charles the Second) in his last hours, to declare to the world that he died a Roman Catholic.—*Neal, V.*

Determined to resist the tyranny of James at all hazards the Protestants of the North had taken to their strongholds the previous December. At Derry, Enniskillen, and other places they took up arms in defence of their lives and liberties. At Derry James's army was already in view of the gates, and two of his officers within the walls. But thirteen brave youths (apprentice boys) got together* and with drawn swords ran to the mainguard, seized the keys, drew up the bridge, and locked the Ferry-quay gate when James's troops were within sixty yards of it. Thence they secured the other gates, and met in the market-place,—all in the nick of time !. From the gates their course was to the old Cathedral. On their way they saw and heard Bishop Hopkins—a lover of peace at any price in those days—addressing the people to the effect that they should submit to “the powers that be, &c.” They waited a moment and said, “a very good sermon, my Lord, but we haven't time to hear it !” They rushed to their Cathedral. They unfurled their crimson banner, and the inscription thereon :—

“NO SURRENDER,”

struck the death-knell of the miserable tyrant's hopes, and after 108 days' close siege by an army of 20,000 men, James's minions had to retreat from the “maiden city,” leaving her as they found her, in all her purity “a maiden still,” as I trust she ever will remain.

This gallant resistance and glorious victory, which stands unrivalled in the military annals of our country,† and has immortalized the names of “The Apprentice Boys of Londonderry,” is thus referred to in the following lines :—

THE SIEGE OF DERRY.

When Derry closed her far-famed gates,
Guarded by many a brave defender,
Over her walls there proudly waved
Her crimson banner “NO SURRENDER !”
And Oh, it was a glorious sight to see,
How lads with hearts undaunted,
Looked in the face of death and tyranny,
And Freedom's standard on their ramparts planted.
The cannons rattled 'gainst the city's walls,
The citizens their answers sent in thunder,
Now here, now there, a noble spirit falls,
While houses, homes, and friends are rent asunder ;
Still standing to their guns, though faint and worn,
The Derry heroes fight their weary battle,
Still through their ranks are red-hot volleys borne,
Still to and fro the thundering cannons rattle :
Hurrah ! the Derry boys at last have won !
Each one has proved a fearless, true defender ;
May we, as they, fight bravely every one,
And shout with voice and spirit—“NO SURRENDER !”

* On the 7th of December (O.S.), 1688, a day ever memorable in Irish annals.

† See Appendix, Note A.

The names of those thirteen noble young men (apprentice boys) are as follow:—

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Henry Campsie | 8. Alexander Cunningham |
| 2. William Crookshanks | 9. Samuel Hunt |
| 3. Robert Sherrard | 11. James Spike |
| 4. Daniel Sherrard | 10. John Cunningham |
| 5. Alexander Irwin | 12. William Cairnes |
| 6. James Stewart | and |
| 7. Robert Morrison | 13. Samuel Harvey |

These gallant youths originated the Society still called the "Prentice Boys of Derry," and their glorious act of closing the gates has been annually celebrated from that time to the present.

The inhabitants of Enniskillen soon followed the noble example set by Londonderry; and having raised a regiment of twelve companies, appointed Gustavus Hamilton, Esq., their Governor, and on the 11th of March secured their barriers and proclaimed King WILLIAM and Queen MARY. But being summoned by Lord Gilmoy to surrender, and they refusing to do so, he marched all his forces to Crum Castle; failing, however, to take it, he retired to Belturbet followed by the brave Enniskilliners, who in a remarkably gallant action (fought on the day that Derry was relieved) advanced, under the command of Colonel Lloyd, nearly 18 miles, and at Newtown-Butler they engaged and totally routed the rebel army, taking McCarthy, their general, prisoner. In this action the Irish lost 2,000 men, besides 500 others who were drowned in the lough when endeavouring to escape, and 300 taken prisoners.

About this time vital injury was done to Tyrconnell's government by the circulation of a mere ballad or squib, called "Lilliburlero," the whole army, and at last the people, both in city and country, perpetually singing it. Perhaps never had so slight a thing had so great an effect.

I shall quote the last verse only:—

"Dere was an old prophecy found in a bog,
 Lilliburlero, bullin a la,
 Ireland shall be ruled by an ass and a dog,
 Lilliburlero, bullin a la!
 And now dis prophecy is come to pass,
 Lilliburlero, bullin a la,
 For Talbot's* de dog and James is de ass,
 Lilliburlero, bullin a la.†

WILLIAM's troops meanwhile were on the move for Ireland. And on the 13th of August, 1689, 10,000 foot and horse landed at Carrickfergus, where James had placed a garrison. Duke Schomberg had the command, and after a feeble attempt at resistance, he took the town, as he had already taken Belfast, Antrim, and other places.

* Talbot was the family name of the Earl of Tyrconnell. He was nicknamed "lying Dick Talbot."

† Bullin-a-la was the watchword used among the Irish Roman Catholics in their massacre of the Protestants in 1641.

An association was now formed similar to our Orange Society—"None but Protestants to be admitted but all loyal and peaceable men to be protected."

WILLIAM at length determined to go in person to Ireland. On the day previous to his departure he had an interview with Doctor Burnet, formerly his private chaplain, then Bishop of Salisbury, who in "The History of His Own Time," writes of it as follows:—"His Majesty seemed absorbed in thought, and gravely observed to me, that for his own part he would either go through with the business he had put before him or perish in it. 'Only,' said his Majesty, 'I cannot help feeling for the poor Queen. If you love me wait on her often, and give her what help you can.' He lamented the factions and heats in the nation, and that the clergy, instead of allaying did rather foment and inflame them. He declared that going to a campaign was naturally no unpleasant thing to him, and said he was sure he understood that better than how to govern England. He added, that 'though he had no doubt or mistrust of the cause he went on, yet the going against King James in person was hard upon him, since it would be a vast trouble both to himself and the Queen if he (James) should be either killed or taken prisoner.' He then desired the Bishop's prayers; and Bishop Burnet adds, "I was very deeply affected with what his Majesty had said."

King WILLIAM set out from London on the 4th of June (Parliament having previously enacted that MARY should administer the Government in his absence), and ten days after, viz., on the 14th of June, 1690, his Majesty landed at Carrickfergus, being attended by Prince George of Denmark, the Duke of Ormonde, the Earls of Oxford, Portland, Scarborough, and Manchester, with many other persons of distinction, and a large number of additional troops, consisting of Swedes, Dutch, Huguenots, Swiss, and English. He went on the same day to Belfast, where he was very warmly received.

To prove how much the Protestants of Ireland, and of Dublin in particular, were harassed at this time, I will read for you the proclamation of Colonel Luttrell, Governor of Dublin under James, which prohibited the meeting of more than five Protestants together on pain of death! The following is the

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS several disaffected persons of the Protestant religion are of late come to this city of Dublin, and some of them armed with swords, pistols, and other weapons, contrary to his Majesty's express commands by his royal proclamation, bearing date the 20th day of July, 1689.

I. These are therefore to will and require all men whatsoever of the Protestant religion now residing or being within the said city of Dublin, or within the liberties of St. Sepulchre, Donor, or Thomas-court, who are not housekeepers, or have not followed some lawful vocation therein these three months past, to depart within twenty-four hours after the publication hereof, out of the said city and liberties,

and repair to their respective habitations, or usual places of abode in the country, upon pain of death, or imprisonment, and to be further proceeded against as contemners of his Majesty's royal commands, and as persons designing the disturbance of the public peace.

II. And likewise, that all Protestants within the said city and liberties, not being of his Majesty's most honourable privy council, nor in his army, or actual service, shall within the time aforesaid deliver up all their arms, both offensive and defensive, and all their ammunition, into his Majesty's stores in the said city, upon pain of death.

III. And that no Protestant whatsoever, do presume at his peril, to walk or go in the streets, from ten o'clock at night till five in the morning, nor at any time when there is any alarm.—In which case, all such persons are required for their safety, and for the security of the public, to keep within doors till such an alarm is over.

IV. And lastly, for the prevention of riots and unlawful assemblies; these are therefore to will and require, all the said Protestants, that no greater number of them than *five* shall meet and converse at any time, either in any house within the said city or liberties, over and above the family of the house; or in the streets and fields, in or about the same, or elsewhere: Hereby declaring, that all persons who shall offend against any clause in this present order, shall suffer *death*, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall think fit.

(Signed), S. LUTTRELL, *Col*,
Governor, &c.

DUBLIN, 18th June, 1690.

Such was the state of this country, and such the melancholy condition of the Protestants of Ireland on the arrival of King WILLIAM from England.

"What words can paint those execrable times,
The heroes' sufferings and the tyrants' crimes."*

The eyes of all Europe were now fixed on Ireland, in which two Kings, father-in-law and son-in-law, and uncle and nephew (the Prince of Denmark) were engaged. It was, however, a contest of liberty against slavery, of Popery *versus* Protestantism. "It was" (as the great Doctor Crolly so well puts it, in his review of these times) "THE PROTESTANT CHAMPION AGAINST THE POPISH PERSECUTOR, THE ISSUE BEING WHETHER BRITAIN SHOULD NOW BE A REPUBLIC AT THE BECK OF FRANCE."

WILLIAM found his army to consist of 36,000 English, Dutch, and others before mentioned, all valiant soldiers. James's army amounted to about 40,000 foot and 6,000 horse and dragoons, besides about 24,000 dispersed in garrisons.

KING WILLIAM marched to Dundalk; James also moved from Dublin with 6,000 French foot, and having reached headquarters, and chosen a very advantageous position on the south of the river Boyne, not far from Duleek—he held a Council of War in which both French and Irish agreed in opinion that it would be unsafe to hazard a battle, and advocated moving off to the Shannon where the French King had promised to send a large fleet to destroy WILLIAM's transports. Unfortunate James, however, either from despair or with a view to his own personal safety, insisted on defending the Boyne, but at the same time, mistrusting the event, and conscious of the courage

* See Appendix, Note B.

and resolution of WILLIAM, he took the precaution of sending Sir Patrick Trant to Waterford to secure a ship there, so that if defeated he could make good his retreat to France. He told them "there must be one fair battle for the Crown." But the way *he* played the hero was by hiding himself behind an old church (the Church of Donore*), a mile from the scene of action!

Meanwhile WILLIAM acted the true General. He rode all through his encampment, exhorted the soldiers, examined every regiment, and, when asked to order wine for his table, he refused, saying, "No, I will drink water with my soldiers." He remained all day on horseback with his army, and if danger threatened he was the foremost.

About this time King WILLIAM, receiving some words of caution from his officers, said that he "had not come to Ireland to let the grass grow under his feet, but was determined to prosecute the war with the utmost vigour."

Having learned that the enemy had encamped beyond the Boyne, King WILLIAM, at six o'clock on the morning of the 30th of June, marched his army in three columns towards that river, which was about four miles distant, and arrived by nine o'clock within two miles of Drogheda, Lieutenant-General Douglas with the foot, and Count Schomberg with the horse, both amounting to ten thousand men.

The encampment of James was hidden by hills, and WILLIAM, who rode in front, ascended a hill to the north-east of the town and made his observations of James's forces, which he found were encamped along the south side of the Boyne in two lines, and when arrived before the village of Oldbridge he took a nearer view, dismounted, and sat down for an hour on a rising ground on the north side of the river to write his notes. The enemy observed who he was, watched his movements, *and planted two pieces of cannon just opposite to him!*

Their first shot missed him, but killed a man and horse near. A second ball grazed the Kings shoulder and disabled his arm. The enemy thought he was killed, and shouted and huzza'd. But King WILLIAM, after his slight wound was dressed, remounted and rode through his whole army to reassure them of his safety; and continued on horseback, without the least concern, till four o'clock in the afternoon, when he dined on the field.†

He again mounted his horse in the evening, and at nine o'clock that night he called a Council of War and gave orders that the river should be passed early the next morning, and after all was settled for action (the watchword was "Westminster,") WILLIAM rode through the camp by torchlight, thus giving confidence to his soldiers; and he retired to rest at 12 o'clock.

At break of day the following morning (the 1st of July, o.s., 1690), WILLIAM's soldiers, with a good store of ammunition and with green

* See Appendix, Note C.

† At the siege of Maestricht, in 1676, WILLIAM received a musket shot in his arm, and perceiving those around him somewhat daunted he pulled off his hat with the wounded arm, and waved it about his head to show that the wound was only trifling.

boughs or sprigs in their hats (the enemy wore white paper in theirs, hence the rebel tune called "The White Cockade.") I say WILLIAM's soldiers marched forward, the first to move being the Blue Dutch Guards stepping proudly to the music of "Lilliburlero," and Schomberg pressing on to cross the river, the soldiers breast high in the water, "keeping their powder dry" by holding their guns above their heads, and many of the horses obliged to swim. Our HERO at the head of four troops of Enniskillen horse, one regiment of Danish horse, and one of English infantry, all eager for the fray! Soon alas! Duke Schomberg fell mortally wounded,* and Doctor Walker, formerly Governor of Derry, immediately after.

The officers earnestly entreated King WILLIAM not to expose himself by crossing the river within shot of the enemy, but his reply was, "do not mind, I will see you over," and so he did, although an officer's horse was shot under him. *A brave man himself, WILLIAM knew how to stimulate the bravery of others.*

His Majesty crossed the Boyne nearly opposite the village of Old-bridge, his guide being an old "Enniskillener" named David McKinlay. On reaching the opposite bank his horse sank in a morass, which obliged his Majesty to dismount until the animal was extricated, when he quickly remounted, and was soon again in his place at the front.

And now safely over, WILLIAM casting the bandage from his shoulder, was observed at the head of the Enniskilleners waving his sword as it glittered in the sun that July morning, and cheering on his men. The enemy being double their number were rushing upon them with great fury, but they were vigorously repulsed by the Enniskilleners,† and hastily retired to the hill of Donore where James, as before mentioned, was skulking as a coward, watching the battle, more than half a mile from where our brave WILLIAM had crossed the Boyne, *and gained the victory!*

Dalrymple says—"The Irish lost 2,000, and the English less than one fourth of that number—about 450," which however, we regret to say, included the brave Schomberg and the manly Walker, serious calamities these no doubt, but still not so great when we consider the importance of the engagement, the number of the combatants, and also that those two noble men died within sight of victory.

James, on seeing that the battle had gone against him, fled down the hill towards Duleek, and thence in great haste and confusion to Dublin, escorted by about 200 horse. He arrived at Dublin Castle

* See Appendix, Note D.

† This brave regiment which so conspicuously distinguished itself at Newtown-Butler, Cavan, the Boyne, and Aughrim consisted of Protestants from the Counties of Donegal, Cavan, Monaghan, Leitrim, and Sligo. It may be here mentioned that it was not until the middle of the last century that regiments received numbers, previously they were known by the names of their Colonels. Of late years numbers have been discarded, and regiments have now territorial titles, being named after counties or districts.

at nine o'clock that night, foaming with rage and disappointment. Lady Tyrconnell ran down stairs to welcome him, and to enquire the news, "Madam," said he, "your countrymen" (meaning the Irish), "have run away." "If they have, sire, your Majesty seems to have won the race!" was that lady's ready retort. He slept in Dublin that night, and next morning went south, ordering the bridges to be broken down behind him as he proceeded, fearing pursuit; took ship at Waterford, as he had arranged, and never cried "stop" until he found himself once more upon French soil, and taking up his quarters at St. Germain's, he resided there until his death in 1701.*

Thus terminated the glorious victory of THE BOYNE, and with the exception of his being hit on the shoulder, as already mentioned, King WILLIAM did not receive any wound in the battle, but a cannon ball carried away part of one of his boots! Throughout the whole course of it, as in his former engagements, his Majesty proved himself a consummate General. He selected the ground, arranged the points of attack, marshalled the troops, and after Duke Schomberg was struck down, he repeatedly charged the enemy in person.

In short, the best tribute to his valour and conduct on this ever-memorable occasion is to be found in the declaration of James's troops after the battle of the Boyne: "If only," said they, "we could change Kings we would fight the battle over again."

In consequence of an alteration in the calendar the 12th of July now represents the day of this famous victory, which is thus referred to in the old and well-known song—the production evidently of some rustic poet—called—

THE BOYNE WATER.†

July the First, in Oldbridge town,
There was a grievous battle,
Where many a man lay on the ground,
By the cannons that did rattle.
King James he pitched his tents, between
The lines for to retire;
But King William threw his bomb-balls in,
And set them all on fire.

Thereat enraged they vow'd revenge
Upon King William's forces,
And oft did vehemently cry
That they would stop their courses.
A bullet from the Irish came,
Which grazed King William's arm,
They thought his Majesty was slain,
But it did him little harm.

* "There is hardly a Sovereign mentioned in history of whom one can find less good to say than of James the Second of England."—*Chambers*.

† See Appendix, Note E.

Duke Schomberg then, in friendly care,
His king would often caution
To shun the spot where bullets hot
Retained their rapid motion ;
But William said, " He don't deserve
The name of Faith's Defender,
Who would not venture life and limb
To make a foe surrender."

When we the Boyne began to cross,
The enemy they descended ;
But few of our brave men were lost
So stoutly we defended ;
The horse were the first that marched o'er,
The foot soon followed after :
But brave Duke Schomberg was no more
By venturing o'er the water.

When valiant Schomberg he was slain,
King William then accosted
His warlike men for to march on,
And he would be the foremost ;
" Brave boys," he said, " be not dismay'd
For the loss of one Commander,
For God will be our King this day,
And I'll be General under."

Then stoutly we the Boyne did cross,
To give our enemies battle ;
Our cannons, to our foe's great cost,
Like thund'ring claps did rattle.
In majestic mien our Prince rode o'er,
His men soon followed after,
And with blows and shouts put our foes to the rout
The day we crossed the water.

The Protestants of Drogheda
Have reason to be thankful,
That they were not to bondage brought,
They being but a handful ;
First to the Tholsel they were brought,
And tried at Millmount after ;
But brave King William set them free
By venturing o'er the water.

The cunning French near to Duleek
Had taken up their quarters,
And fenc'd themselves on every side,
Still waiting for new orders ;
But in the dead time of the night
They set the fields on fire,
And long before the morning light
To Dublin did retire.

Then said King William to his men,
After the French departed,
" I'm glad," said he, " that none of ye
Were in the least faint-hearted :
So sheathe your swords and rest awhile,
In time we'll follow after ;" —
These words he uttered with a smile
The day he crossed the water.

Come let us all with heart and voice
 Applaud our live's defender,
 Who at the Boyne his valour showed
 And made his foes surrender.
 To God above the praise we'll give
 Both now and ever after,
 And bless the glorious memory
 Of King William that crossed the water.

The battle now over and the enemy completely routed, King WILLIAM, leaving a garrison in Drogheda (which place surrendered the day after the battle of the Boyne*), prepared forthwith to march for Dublin, and that night he and the bulk of his army reached Finglas, within four miles of it, where they encamped for rest and refreshment, and from whence his Majesty issued the following

PROCLAMATION.

WILLIAM and MARY, *King and Queen of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland.*

To all the people of our kingdom of IRELAND whom it may concern.

WHEREAS, it hath pleased Almighty God to bless our arms in this kingdom with a late victory over our enemies at the Boyne, and with the possession of our capital city of Dublin, and with a general dispersion of all that did oppose us, we are now in so happy a prospect of our affairs, and of extinguishing the rebellion of this kingdom, that we hold it reasonable to think of mercy, and to have compassion upon them whom we judge to have been seduced.—WHEREFORE, we do hereby declare, we shall take into our royal protection all poor labourers, common soldiers, country farmers, ploughmen, and cottiers, whatsoever, as also all citizens, townsmen, tradesmen, and artificers, who either remained at home, or having fled from their dwellings, shall, by the first day of August next, repair to their usual place of abode, surrendering up what arms they have to such justices of the peace, as are, or shall be appointed by us, not only to receive the same, but also to register the appearance of such of the said persons, as shall come, and submit unto our authority : for our royal intention is, and we do hereby declare, that we will not only pardon all these poor, seduced people, as to their lives and liberties, who shall come in by the time aforesaid, for all violences they have done or committed by the command of their leaders during the war ; but we do also promise to secure them in their goods, their stocks of cattle, and all their chattels personal whatsoever, willing and requiring them to come in ; and where they were tenants, then to preserve the harvest of grass and corn for the supply of the winter. But forasmuch as many of them had a legal right to the tenancy of several lands, some holding from Protestants, and some from Popish proprietors who have been concerned in the rebellion against us, our will and pleasure is, that all those tenants who held from our good Protestant subjects, do pay their rents to their respective landlords, and that the tenants of all those who have been concerned in the present rebellion against us, do keep their rents in their hands until they have notice from the commissioners of our revenue, unto whom they are to account for the same. AND as we do hereby strictly forbid all violence, rapine, and molestation to any who shall thus come in, and remain obedient to us, so for those of this, or any other rank or quality, who are already in our quarters, and within our power, and obedient to us, we do hereby charge and require, that they be not disquieted in any sort, without our particular command. For the desperate leaders of the present rebellion who have violated those laws, by which this kingdom is united and inseparably annexed to the imperial crown of England, who have called in the French, who have authorised all violences and depredations against the Protestants,

* See Appendix, Note F.

and who rejected the gracious freedom we offered them in our proclamation of the 22nd February, 1689, as we are now, by God's great favour, in condition to make them sensible of their errors, so are we resolved to leave them to the event of war, unless by great and manifest demonstration we shall be convinced they deserve our mercy, which we shall never refuse to those who are truly penitent.

Given at our Royal Camp at Finglas, near
Dublin, the 5th day of July, 1690, in the
second year of our reign.—WILLIAM R.

(Signed) ROBERT SOUTHWELL,
Secretary of State.

*To our Commissioners of our
Great Seal of IRELAND.*

The next Sunday morning, the 6th of July (old style), King WILLIAM made his triumphant entry into Dublin where he was received with great rejoicing; and proceeding in state forthwith to St. Patrick's Cathedral, he returned heartfelt thanks to Almighty God for his late important victory. The Rev. Dr. King (afterwards Archbishop of Dublin), preached on the occasion before a vast congregation of citizens and soldiers, in which he dwelt on the wisdom, love, and power of God as manifested in the protection of his people and the subjugation of their adversaries.

The week after all classes of Protestants in Dublin, including the restored Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and other civic authorities, attended and testified their homage to his Majesty, and their unbounded joy at their signal deliverance from utter destruction.

Having alluded to the "restored" Lord Mayor and Aldermen, &c., I may here mention that the members of the Dublin Corporation when expelled by James from the Mansion House and other places of Assembly, retired to Skinner's Alley, a lane in that part of ancient Dublin called "The Liberty," where they continued to meet until they were put back into possession again by King WILLIAM after the victory of the Boyne.

This was the origin of that ancient and loyal society of Orangemen called "The Aldermen of Skinner's Alley,"* which in fact still exists, and which was the first Orange Society ever formed. No class, however humble, was excluded, the times of meeting were monthly,

* My esteemed and valued friend the late Reverend Tresham D. Gregg, D.D., was a member of this ancient and loyal body, and I regret to say that at one of their meetings, after the General Election of 1847, a resolution was carried for the expulsion of Dr. Gregg because he had advised the Orangemen and Protestant Operatives of Dublin at that election to vote only for Grogan, who always proved faithful to the Protestant cause, and not to vote for Gregory, who was then generally distrusted, the consequence of which advice was that Mr. Gregory was defeated and the Roman Catholic candidate, Mr. John Reynolds, T.C., was returned, along with Mr. (now Sir Edward) Grogan. The Aldermen of Skinner's Alley on that occasion advocated the maintenance of the principle that "of two evils we should choose the *least*," while Dr. Gregg as stoutly affirmed that "of two evils we should choose *neither*."

their charter-dish was sheep's trotters (in ironical remembrance of King James running away from the Boyne) and their charter-toast, which was always given with "nine times nine,"—

THE GLORIOUS, PIOUS, AND IMMORTAL MEMORY OF THE GREAT
AND GOOD KING WILLIAM THE THIRD !

Time will not admit of my following the Williamites further in their exploits from the Boyne to the surrender of Kilkenny, Waterford, Cork, and other places. The town of Youghal although well garrisoned, surrendered on the 2nd of August to fifty dragoons! *so great was the terror that WILLIAM'S conquering army had produced throughout the country.* In fact the greater part of Ireland had yielded to their prowess within a few months; and on the 4th of September, King WILLIAM, having appointed Lords Justices for Ireland, and placed the care and command of the army in the very capable hands of Count Zolmes and General Ginckle (the ablest of his Dutch generals,) he embarked for England next day.

On the 6th, his Majesty, with Prince George of Denmark and other distinguished persons, arrived at Bristol, and on the 9th at Windsor, where he was received with indescribable joy by Queen MARY, who had acted well her part during his absence.

Parliament met on the 2nd of October, and both Houses presented addresses to the King and Queen, extolling his Majesty's bravery and prudence in war, and the Queen for the wisdom and fortitude displayed by her during his Majesty's absence in Ireland; and after voting a supply of four millions sterling for the army and navy they adjourned.

To revert back to Ireland—the year following, namely on the 18th of June, 1691 (after the surrender of Mullingar), General Ginckle marched with his army for Athlone, encamping that night at Ballyburn Pass, within five miles of Athlone, which he reached early next day, and commenced operations at once for its reduction.

The Irish were commanded by St. Ruth, a celebrated French general. In two days the English town, situate on the east side of the river Shannon, which runs through Athlone, was taken by Ginckle, and the Irish town, on the west, immediately after, with a loss to St. Ruth of 1200 men.*

St. Ruth then retreated towards Aughrim, followed by Ginckle, and on the 12th of July, 1691, the famous battle of Aughrim was fought,

* It would be difficult from history to parallel so brave an enterprise as this, in which 3,000 men attacked a fortified town across a rapid river, in face of a numerous army who by their intrenchments were masters of all the fords.

A medal was struck on this important occasion, having King WILLIAM'S bust, crowned with laurel, and on the reverse, in Latin, the words (I give the English) "The French and the rebels being dispersed, Athlone is set at liberty, 1691."

the Irish being again commanded by St. Ruth, who had by that time increased his army to 25,000 men, whilst the British did not exceed 18,000, under the command of General Ginckle.

At 5 o'clock p.m., the English attacked the right wing of the enemy, and the battle raged furiously for some time, St. Ruth several times appealing to the Irish "to fight for their religion," and "to wipe out the stain of the Boyne." But all to no purpose. At length he was so foolhardy as to lead forward a brigade of horse to attack the British cavalry on the right, and was killed by a cannon shot, upon which his troops gave way at all points, and the cavalry bearing down upon them with great force, the entire line betook themselves to flight. Immediately after the Castle of Aughrim was taken by assault, and all therein put to death or taken prisoners.

In this battle there were 7,000 of the Irish slain and 450 made prisoners, besides they lost nine pieces of cannon, all their ammunition, tents, baggage, most of their small arms, and several stands of colours, which were sent as a present to Queen MARY. An eye-witness who looked from the hill on which the castle stood, the day after the battle, wrote as follows—"The country for miles around was whitened with the naked bodies of the slain, in fact it looked like an immense pasture covered with flocks of sheep."

The loss of the British was computed at 600 killed and 960 wounded.

Galway yielded immediately after the terrible day of Aughrim, and Limerick the following October.

And now, the whole of Ireland being entirely subdued to the British Crown, General Ginckle took his departure for England, on his return to which he and his officers were most sumptuously entertained by the city of London, and his Majesty created him "Earl of Athlone and Baron Aughrim," thus conveying to his posterity the honour of his achievements. Some newspapers, therefore, both here and in England, have been wrong in stating that the title "Earl of Athlone," lately conferred on Prince Albert Victor, was "an entirely new creation."

On the 22nd of November, 1694, Doctor Tillotson, Archbishop of Canterbury, died of the palsy, greatly regretted by the King and Queen, the latter of whom did not long survive her favourite prelate, for on the 21st of December her Majesty was taken ill of the smallpox, of which she expired on the 28th of that month, in the thirty-third year of her age, and sixth of her joint reign, most deeply and deservedly regretted by his Majesty, who was a most affectionate husband, and by the whole nation; but the government was continued in his person, and the death of the Queen tended to unite more closely the adherents of the King and Constitution, and rendered them more zealous and determined in defence of both. Three days after the

Queen's death the Lords and Commons presented addresses of condolence to his Majesty, and on the 5th of March, 1695, her remains were interred in State in Westminster Abbey.

Queen Mary in person was tall and well proportioned, with an oval visage, lively eyes, agreeable features, a majestic carriage, and she was blessed with a most affable and amiable disposition. She was a zealous Protestant, and most patient and resigned during her illness. She was heard to say, a short time before her death—"I believe I shall now soon die, and I thank God I have from my youth learned a true doctrine, that repentance is not to be put off to a death-bed."

On the 27th of August, 1695, the Irish Parliament assembled at Dublin, when the Lord Lieutenant, His Excellency Baron Capel of Tewksbury, spoke as follows—"Many and great were the obligations they owed to his Majesty, who had appeared himself in their cause, fought their battles, and at his own personal hazard restored them to their religion and properties, and he doubted not but they would make suitable returns of loyalty and affection to his Majesty by showing zeal for his cause, which was the cause of truth and right."

In February, 1696, a conspiracy to assassinate King WILLIAM having been discovered, a proclamation was issued for the apprehension of the conspirators, and the Lord Lieutenant and Council signed the form of an association in the council books, as a testimony of their zeal in the defence of his Majesty.

On the 30th of December, 1701, the Imperial Parliament, pursuant to summons, assembled, when the King addressed both Houses in a most wise, magnanimous, and energetic speech, which excited the most enthusiastic feelings throughout the nation.* And had not an accident somewhat hastened his death, he might have been spared to his country for many years. But it so happened that riding from Kensington Palace on the 21st of February, 1702, to Hampton Court, his horse fell, by which his right collar bone was fractured. His lungs were also injured, and the result was that our HERO died on Sunday, the 8th of March, 1702, having reigned thirteen years in England.

About five o'clock on the morning of that day his Majesty desired the sacrament, which he received with marked solemnity, and between seven and eight o'clock he expired, his reason and senses having been preserved up to the final moment of his departure.

Having lain in state at Kensington for some days the body of King WILLIAM was afterwards interred in Henry the Seventh's Chapel, Westminster Abbey, in near proximity to the remains of his late beloved and excellent consort.

* This speech was his own—not a cabinet composition like King's and Queen's speeches of modern days—it was afterwards printed, and a copy of it framed was to be found in most Protestant houses, as the last legacy of an able, highminded, and generous Prince, who throughout his earthly career had been their steadfast friend and benefactor. The speech will be found in full in the Appendix, Note G.

It may here be mentioned that after his death a black ribbon was removed from the King's left arm, attached to which was a gold ring enclosing some of the late Queen's hair, a circumstance that fully manifested the tenderness with which he cherished and revered her memory.

Thus lived and died the great and good King WILLIAM the Third. His death took place in the fifty-second year of his age, and the fourteenth of his glorious reign.

As to his person he was of middle stature, rather thin and spare, but wiry, and, as was often proved, able to endure a good deal of fatigue. He had a light brown complexion, an aquiline nose, bright and piercing eyes, a finely developed forehead, and a countenance indicative both of gravity and authority. His appearance was most graceful when on horseback, and hence he is nearly always represented in that position, and generally as crossing the Boyne.

Besides the Dutch language, which was natural to him, he spoke French perfectly, the English and German tolerably well, and he understood Latin, Spanish, and Italian, so that he was well fitted to command armies composed of different nationalities.

But his principal study and engrossing passion was the MILITARY art. *He had no relish for any other music than the Trumpet and the Drum!*

He was possessed of a sound judgment, and a firm, composed mind in the most imminent danger. Constitutionally he was rather reserved in his manner, but of a most humane, merciful, and generous disposition. Always easy of access, he gave to every one a favourable hearing. His piety and devotion were sincere and unaffected. In the public worship of God he was attentive and exemplary. He was also constant and regular in his private devotions. He always showed great tenderness for dissenters, and was ever averse to persecution on account of religion.* He took the Coronation Oath of Scotland on the understanding and condition that he was not to become a persecutor on account of religion.

The Society of Friends always objected to taking oaths, and it was in WILLIAM the Third's time that an Act was passed for their relief in that respect. The words of the Act are, "that henceforth the solemn affirmation and declaration of the people called Quakers shall be accepted instead of the oath in the usual form."

* On the 19th of June, 1690, at Hillsborough, King William issued a warrant for granting a pension of £1,200 a year to certain Presbyterians of Down and Antrim, partly as a reward for loyalty towards him and partly as a compensation for losses. This was the origin of the Royal Gift called *Regium Donum*, which from the time of William until the Irish Church Act (1869) was regularly paid.

In 1691 he interfered on behalf of the Waldenses, and succeeded in obtaining from the Duke of Savoy their liberation from religious persecution.

It is also to the Bill of Rights (first of William and Mary) that we are indebted for the liberty of subjects meeting to petition the King, which enacted as follows :—" It is the right of the subject to petition the King, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal."

It was King WILLIAM the Third also who first abolished arrest for debt on Sundays. The words of that Act are, " On the Lord's day debtors shall be free from arrest " (7th William III., chap. 17).

During his reign that great institution, the Bank of England, was founded,* the modern system of finance introduced, monarchical tyranny abolished, ministerial responsibility recognized, the liberty of the press secured, and the British Constitution established on a firm and lasting basis.

The last and most glorious act of his reign was his passing the Bill for settling the succession of the Crown in the House of Hanover on the 12th of June, 1701.

The great Lord Plunket, the ancestor of our present Archbishop of Dublin, in one of his splendid speeches (delivered on the 3rd of February, 1823), said :—" Perhaps, my lords, there is not to be found in the annals of history a character more truly great than that of WILLIAM III. Perhaps no person has ever appeared on the theatre of the world who has conferred more essential or lasting benefits on mankind ; on these countries, certainly, none. When I look at the abstract merits of his character, I contemplate him with admiration and reverence. Looking merely at his shining qualities and achievements, I admire him as I do a Scipio, a Regulus, a Fabius, a model of tranquil courage, undeviating probity, and armed with a resoluteness and constancy in the cause of truth and freedom which rendered him superior to the accidents that control the fate of ordinary men. But this is not all. I feel that to him I am indebted, under God, for the enjoyments of the rights which at this moment I possess as a subject of these free countries. To him I owe the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and," said he, " I VENERATE HIS MEMORY."

Hallam, the great historian and critic, wrote that " it was an honour to the British Crown that it was worn by such a man." And " Albert the good," our beloved Queen's late consort, said " he was the greatest monarch that ever occupied the British throne." He was indeed a King among men, and we bless God for having raised up for us such a King at such a crisis.

* The constituting the Bank of England, as Harris remarks, " occasioned the increase of trade, and the circulation of money ; and with all other remote funds that were created had another good effect, viz., engaging all concerned in them to be, on account of their interest, zealous for maintaining the government, since it was manifest that a revolution might sweep all these funds away." This great institution after the lapse of over 180 years still flourishes, and promises to flourish.

In every respect then, as King, Protestant, and Soldier, most truly and justly is he styled—

“WILLIAM THE THIRD, OF GLORIOUS, PIOUS, AND IMMORTAL MEMORY.”

GLORIOUS, yes! his reign was a glorious one, his actions were noble, and his deeds illustrious and splendid in every sense of the word. His life was almost always spent in the field for the welfare of his people and the preservation of his kingdom; and a more brave and able general, perhaps, was never at the head of an army.* In 1674, during the great war between WILLIAM's forces and the French, our hero—then only 24 years old—was for eight hours in the front of the battle, when about 7,000 were killed on each side. This was the battle of Seneffe, at which the Prince of Orange commanded the whole confederate army. General Souche, who was with the imperial forces, wrote of him as follows, in a letter to the States General:—“I have endeavoured to discharge my duty in attending his Highness the Prince of Orange during this bloody and famous battle, the happy issue of which has proved so much to the glory of the Prince of Orange, who showed upon that occasion the prudence of an aged Captain, the courage of a Cæsar, and the undaunted bravery of a Marius.” The Prince of Conde also in a letter to his master, the French King, written at the close of the conflict, bears the following testimony to WILLIAM's prowess—“He acted like an old captain in all the action, except only venturing himself too much like a young man.”

In fact, King WILLIAM the Third was a soldier every inch of him! And he was not the first pious King who was a great soldier. Joshua was a soldier, Moses before him was a soldier, and like our hero, the good King David was an able and skilful General; and coming to later times, Oliver Cromwell was a Christian soldier.† Many others might also be mentioned.

The Protestants of Ireland never had a truer friend than King WILLIAM the Third, the *principle* of whose government both here and in England was PROTESTANTISM, for *this* he fought and legislated through life. *He* would feel no “difficulty” in dealing with the blatant, selfish agitators of our times. *He* would not leave Irish Protestants to their fate. King WILLIAM the Third would know how to deal with Fenians, Land Leaguers, Plan of Campaigners, and followers of, and sympathizers with, illegal and traitorous con-

* Able as a General, King William was considered abler as a Statesman. Without the pliability and address of some politicians, his clear and penetrating intellect enabled him to comprehend the merits of the most important and difficult questions, and to adopt the best course respecting them. To his aptness and skill as a diplomatist must be attributed much of his success as a Ruler.

† Carlyle and Macaulay both agree that Cromwell's religion was not a mere profession, but that it was the very essence of the man.

federacies. In 1689 he had an Act passed for "the better security of Irish Protestants," by which the Parliament then held in Ireland was annulled and declared to be "an unlawful and rebellious assembly."

King George the Fourth signed the so-called "Catholic Emancipation Act," which many look back upon as the beginning of all our troubles; Queen Victoria signed Cobden and Bright's "Free Trade" Bill, which unquestionably ruined the landed interest both in England and Ireland. She also signed Gladstone's Irish Church and Irish Land Acts, which have been the cause of ruin to those who have been rightly termed "The English Garrison in Ireland;" King WILLIAM the Third was no narrow-minded bigot, quite the contrary, but he was a patriot-King, one who had the true and lasting interests of his country and kingdom ever before his mind, and you may be well assured he would have "died in the last ditch" (to use his own expressive words on an important occasion) rather than affix his signature to any one of these Acts.*

But he was not only "glorious," he was also

PIOUS, yes! King WILLIAM the Third was all his life a man of prayer, and he died in the arms of the Archbishop of Canterbury. He loved his Bible, and consequently was averse to "lying legends" and scholastic speculations. He was an earnest, zealous Protestant, and a devoted Christian. When coming to England in 1688, he with his whole fleet

* Acting on the principle enunciated by a great statesman, that "whosoever doth not maintain the plough destroys the kingdom," the English Parliament passed a law in 1689 for a bounty on the exportation of corn, which, as Dalrymple said, "caused the country to grow in health and stature," but in 1846, carried away by the *delusive* cry of "cheap food for the people," the Agriculturist was sacrificed to the Manufacturer, we abandoned the protection of our own workmen (contrary to the practice of every other civilised nation), and adopted Bright and Cobden's "Free Trade" Fad. The natural results followed; although the loaf that cost sixpence was (in effect) reduced to fourpence, yet the difficulty of obtaining employment to earn the fourpence became increasingly felt (our home industries being discouraged and paralysed by *importation*) our poorhouses became crowded, and "where is the advantage?" has been for many years the bewildering enquiry of our artisans and workmen.

In like manner the Irish Church Act, 1869, unsettled people's minds and settled nothing. The R.C. tenant who paid *tythe* would have paid more *rent* if he did not do so, and those who really paid the tythe were the landlords, most of whom were Protestants, who still pay it to the Church Body. Besides, this Act deprived the country of several resident gentlemen who spent their incomes amongst the people. It therefore did no good to either tenant or landlord.

The same may be said of the several Irish Land Acts, which, according to Mr. Gladstone, were to have ushered in a "contented Ireland." The landlords of Ireland, who were few and had few votes, were sacrificed to the tenants who had many votes. "Rob the Landlords, bleed the Loyalists, bribe the tenants," has been the prevailing latter day policy, but, like "Free Trade," it is now seen that by this policy the tenants are being sacrificed also, as the ruin is becoming general; and the "people of Ireland" (as the numerical majority are called) were never more discontented, or more disaffected towards England, than since all these Acts were passed. Such is modern legislation, and such are its results!!

and men-of-war neared the south coast on Sunday, the 4th of November—a day so auspicious both for his birth and marriage that his officers and retinue fully expected he would have put in either at the Isle of Wight or Portsmouth—but he purposely did not do so, he dedicated that day to the service of God, and refrained from coming on shore until Monday, the 5th, when he landed, as before mentioned, at Torbay.

That he owned GOD in all his victories is matter of history. It was his invariable habit to issue proclamations for public thanksgivings for success in battle, and for his personal preservation.

He appointed the 26th of November, 1691, to be kept as a solemn day of thanksgiving for the good success of his arms in Ireland.

And in 1694, in his speech to Parliament, he used the following words—"I shall endeavour to do my part in carrying on the war, but it is from the blessing of GOD we must all expect success."

In 1698 he published a proclamation "for preventing and punishing immorality and profaneness," and an Act was also passed the same year "for the more effectual suppression of atheism, blasphemy, and profaneness." Our oldest Protestant Missionary Association, "The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," was instituted in the reign of King WILLIAM the Third.

Further, as showing his Majesty's zeal for religion, and his concern for the Protestant succession, I shall read the following extract from "The Bill of Rights" (first of William and Mary): "The monarch at coronation shall swear that he [or she] shall maintain to the utmost of his [or her] power the laws of God, the true profession of the Gospel, and the Protestant Reformed Religion, also that all who shall profess the Popish religion, or marry a papist, shall be excluded, and be forever incapable to inherit the Crown and Government of this realm of England and Ireland," and it goes on to say, "the people of THIS PROTESTANT KINGDOM are hereby absolved from their allegiance to any and all such persons," and that the Crown and Government of this realm should from time to time descend to, and be enjoyed by such persons only, '*being Protestants*' as should have inherited the same in case the said persons so joining the Church of Rome or marrying a papist were naturally dead."

So that if Queen Victoria became a Roman Catholic to-morrow, she would at once forfeit the Crown, and we should be free of our allegiance to her, as she would be Queen of England and Ireland no longer. This is the law of the land, and to gainsay or question its importance is disloyalty to the soul of the reigning sovereign and to the welfare of the realm.

This Act was passed, as Dr. Wylie* remarks, "because it was found that a King or Queen under the control of the Pope was not, and could not, be free; that whilst a subject of the

* The author of "The History of Protestantism," "Which Sovereign," &c.

Vatican was King, both civil and religious liberty were endangered, that in fact in such case the liberties of Britain were sure to be either strangled or bartered away. It must be King *or* Pope, for King *and* Pope are incompatible. He who is to rule over free men must himself be free."

But I am digressing.

Not only are the words "Glorious" and "Pious" most truly and properly applicable to King WILLIAM the Third, but also the word

"IMMORTAL," yes! his memory is immortal, his fame is immortal, and his name is immortal, imperishably entwined as it is, and ever will be, in proud historical association with the memory of his glorious achievements which broke down the hateful tyranny of James the Second, demolished the guilty hopes and intentions of that bigoted and cowardly monarch, and consolidated the noble work of England's matchless constitution.

IMMORTAL, yes! he has had no equal for 200 years, and though dead he yet lives and speaks in the history of these countries! His name acts as a talisman and a stimulant with every loyalist to the present hour. THE VERY MENTION OF THE NAME OF WILLIAM THE THIRD STILL STIRS OUR HEARTS TO THE CORE!

And now, to sum up all, we have seen that King WILLIAM the Third* was (under GOD):—

The saviour of Holland;
 The vigorous and able defender of the united Provinces;
 The stay and support of Germany;
 The scourge of France;
 The conqueror of the Roman Catholic Irish;
 The deliverer of the Protestants of England, Scotland, and Ireland from Popery, slavery, and arbitrary power;
 The chastiser of tyranny wherever he found it;
 The assertor and the champion of liberty;
 The conservator of true religion;
 The succour of the good, and
 The terror of the wicked.

He made his name great by freeing nations from oppression, and procuring for Christians the liberty of serving God according to the dictates of their consciences.

Union amongst all Protestants was also the prevalent desire and aim of *this religious King*, and he did all he could to promote it.*

* In reply to an address presented to him by Nonconformist ministers shortly after his arrival in England, he said—"My great end is the preservation of the Protestant religion, but I will use my utmost endeavours so to settle and cement all different persuasions of Protestants in such a band of love and unity as may contribute to the lasting security and enjoyment of all sincere professors of that holy religion."—*Neal* V. p. 69.

He could not bear that there should be "any other distinction among his subjects than of those who were for the Protestant religion and the liberties of Englishmen, and those who meant a Popish Prince and a French government."

These were his last words from the throne.*

Such was WILLIAM the Third, KING WILLIAM THE GREAT! aye, by far THE GREATEST of all modern Europe's kings and statesmen! The HERO whom tyrants feared, and before whose prowess mailed despots quailed and fled! Whose likeness painters and sculptors and statuaries have vied with each other during the last two centuries in painting, chiseling, and engraving; whose eagle eye scanned so skilfully and whose energy arranged so successfully the many battles in which he was personally engaged. We have had no king like him for two hundred years, and I fear me England

"Ne'er shall look upon his like again."

The year before he died the citizens of Dublin, in grateful commemoration of their deliverance, erected the equestrian statue in bronze in College-green, to which I have previously alluded, and had inscribed on it in Latin, the following significant inscription.

(In English it reads thus):—

William the Third, King of Great Britain,
France and Ireland,
In commemoration of Religion preserved,
Laws restored, and
Liberty asserted,
The citizens of Dublin have erected
This statue,
It was begun Anno Domini, 1700,
Sir Anthony Piercy, Lord Mayor,
Charles Forrest and James Barlow, Esqrs., Sheriffs,
Finished Anno Domini, 1701,
Sir Mark Ransford, Lord Mayor,
John Eccles and Ralph Gore, Esqrs., Sheriffs.

The statue was unveiled on the 1st of July, 1701, with great enthusiasm and solemnity, it being the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne in 1690.

This equestrian statue of King WILLIAM the Third has been, as already mentioned, recently repaired and redecorated, which it very much required. Had our "Separatist" Corporation neglected it much longer, it would have fallen into irreparable ruin.

* See Appendix, Page 35 (Note G).

The hideous, dark, unsightly hoarding which they had placed around it for such a length of time, was taken down in the dead of night, or early on the morning of Friday, the 16th of this month, in a stealthy and secret manner. Of course nothing else could be expected of our present civic rulers, but in the good old times long ago, when all our Corporations were loyal institutions, we would have had an imposing ceremony on such an occasion ; and notwithstanding all the professions of "liberality," which the separatist party are putting forward of late, we are well assured that should what is termed "Home Rule," or their dream of an Irish Parliament ever be realized (which God forbid !) one of their first attempts would be to try to have a law passed to the effect that "the statue of King WILLIAM the Third, "in the vicinity of this honourable House, be forthwith taken down at "the cost of the city and carted away as rubbish." But, I am just as certain that the Protestants and Orangemen of Dublin, and of Ireland, will never allow such an outrage to be perpetrated, at least without a struggle that shall be worthy of their traditions, and memorable in the future annals of our city and of our country.*

Memorials and statues, Mr. Chairman, thus erected, in honour of the illustrious dead, will in course of time decay and crumble, even though they may be cared and attended to, but better than a statue, or any monument of stone or of marble, of brass, or of bronze, is the memory that we cherish in our heart of hearts of the unblemished career, and the heroic actions of *that great and good King* whose stirring "life," and whose eventful "times" I have thus feebly and imperfectly sketched.

An inscription may fade or be effaced, but our memory of the immortal WILLIAM can only be effaced by death—can only moulder with our dust !

The glorious constitution which King WILLIAM gave to Britain has been, alas ! in modern times, and by successive Governments—both liberal and so-called Conservative—sadly and grievously frittered away ; let us see to it that what remains of it at all events shall be preserved and perpetuated ; let us show that we are not unworthy sons of our worthy sires, that we do not view with indifference or unconcern this frittering away of the glorious privileges purchased for us by their blood, but that we prize them dearly, and are grateful for those still left to us, and that—God helping us—we are determined

" With hearts resolved, and hands prepared,
The blessings we enjoy to guard,"

and to hand those blessings down to our children, and to our children's children.

* A very ill advised movement is, I regret to say, again being initiated for the removal of Nelson's Pillar to another site. We should be very careful not to create a precedent for the removal of our public monuments on any pretence, or for any reason. Again, I say, beware !

For so far, thank God ! “our house is our castle,” we can still meet, and we can worship “under our own vine and fig-tree.” Separatists, be they Home Rulers or Rome Rulers, would very much like to alter this, and to obliterate even memory, but this latter at all events they can never accomplish. Memory, as I have already said, can never perish. We will ever remember “the days of yore,” 1641, 1688, 1690, and 1798. And our watchwords shall ever be

“The Bible, the whole Bible, Protestantism, and Liberty !”

Oh, that the PROTESTANTS of our time were imbued with the same spirit, and animated with something like the same zeal and determination of the Protestants of 1688-90 ! They knew their rights,

“And knowing dared maintain them.”

They chased from the throne—blessed be God who enabled them to do so—the monarch who, beguiled and blinded by Pope and Popery, ventured to set light by the demands of Scripture and of truth. A noble race were they ! May we be equally firm, and equally resolved to maintain our rights, and our religion, and never to flinch from duty when duty is demanded of us !

Oh, that the STATESMEN of our time were imbued with the same spirit of Protestantism that animated the breast and nerved the arm of WILLIAM the Third ! Then would the result surely be the same measure of national greatness and social prosperity which have always invariably accompanied it !

I conclude with the wish and the prayer—may Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, and also the Prince of Wales (when his time shall come to occupy it) never forget the principles that placed the House of Hanover on the Throne of these realms, and may we, the sons of the men who did so much, and suffered so patiently, be urged to the defence of those priceless civil and religious liberties which our forefathers, by the blessing of God upon their endeavours, succeeded in handing down to us !

I thank you very much, Mr, Chairman and friends, for the great patience and attention with which you have listened to me.

APPENDIX.

—:0:—

Page 9. Note A.

The siege of Londonderry is in every way worthy of being thus designated. On the 27th of July, 1689, the garrison was reduced from 7,020 to 4,456 men, and driven to the greatest possible extremity for want of provisions. The price of food at that time, taken from the account given of it by Governor Walker, was as follows—

	£	s.	d.
Horse flesh per pound ... ..	...	0	1 8
A quarter of a dog (fatted by eating the bodies of the slain)	...	0	5 6
A dog's head ... ..	...	0	2 6
A Cat ... ..	...	0	4 6
A Rat ... ..	...	0	1 0
A Mouse ... ..	...	0	0 6
A pound of salted hides ... ..	...	0	1 0
A quart of horse's blood .. ..	...	0	1 0
A horse pudding ... ..	...	0	0 6
A handful of searack ... ..	...	0	0 2
Do. of chickenweed ... ..	...	0	0 1

Their only drink was water, of which they could get but little.

It is recorded that the army of James lost 100 officers and 8,000 men in this siege, most of whom fell by the sword, and the remainder from fevers, dysentery, and other virulent diseases.

In commemoration of this memorable siege a medal was struck. On one side was represented, at a distance, the English fleet advancing to the relief of the town, and on the other the bust of KING WILLIAM on a pedestal, with rays of light, and crowned by two figures, representing FORTITUDE and PLENTY, with a distant representation of *Londonderry*, and an inscription in Latin, of which I give the translation:—"WILLIAM, THE GREATEST IN HOLLAND, THE DELIVERER IN BRITAIN, THE RESTORER OF THE LIBERTY OF LONDONDERRY, 1689."

Page 12. Note B.

About the middle of May, 1690, the Protestants in Dublin were mostly imprisoned in the Churches and Trinity College. All their goods seized and sent to France. King James assuming to pay half the value of same in brass money which they scarce ever got, and any Protestants discovered to possess gold or silver were sent to prison under pretence of high treason! Colonel Simon Luttrell was Governor of Dublin, a man formed for such a Government as that of King James, ready to execute orders, or to act without such in the most desperate affairs. Sir Terence MacDermot, a man of the like stamp, was Lord Mayor of the city, who succeeded Sir Michael Creagh, and he Sir Thomas Hackett in that office, under all of whom the Protestants were in a miserable situation.

As to military affairs the 5,000 French who landed at Kinsale on the 14th of March were all armed and clothed. They came to Dublin some time after and live at free quarters on the Protestants, whom they treated badly in every way.

In this situation were the affairs of Ireland when King William arrived there. The day following his Majesty was attended by the nobility, gentry, and clergy, and presented with an address of congratulation and welcome by Doctor Walker in the name of the Episcopal Clergy, introduced by the Dukes Schomberg and Ormond; and with another from the several Presbyterian Ministers, both of which he received very graciously.

On the occasion of these and other addresses from several parts of Ireland containing assurances of allegiance and of readiness to aid in defence of religion and liberty, a medal was struck representing the bust of King William armed, with the usual inscription, the reverse, Phæthon, the symbol of France, setting the earth on fire. Neptune arising from the sea half dried up, addresses his complaints to Jupiter (emblem of King William) appearing above in a cloud, and armed with thunderbolts, Ireland kneeling in a supplicating posture demands aid, and over the whole this inscription—"Who but you can extinguish these fires!"

Page 13: Note C.

While on a visit in Drogheda lately, I drove out to see this ancient and historic spot. The little church—of which only part of the gable end and a very small portion of the walls now remain—is picturesquely situated on the top of the hill of Donore. The many aged trees, which used to adorn the churchyard and made this place recognisable for miles around, have been all cut down within the last two or three years. The old church, however, or rather its now ivy-covered gable, is observable from all the surrounding heights, in the midst of which it stands in solitary isolation. The little churchyard is surrounded by a stone wall in good preservation, and is crowded with graves and headstones, both new and old; some of these are very ancient, one in particular, an old table-tombstone which fills up the end of the church close to the east window, is especially remarkable. The date on this table-tombstone shows it was there in James's time, and as it is said that he slept in this church the night before the battle of the Boyne, it is more than probable that it served him for a table, or a rest for his lamp, and the inscription on it, in well-cut letters, as he spelled it over on that anxious night, must have produced within him saddened feelings, and helped to depress him in view of the approaching combat. The inscription, which is still distinctly visible, is as follows:—

"All ye mortals who on this earth draw breath,
In health prepare for the certain hour of death."

Page 14. Note D.

It is not generally known how Duke Schomberg lost his life at the Boyne, which was as follows, as related by that famous and reliable historian, HARRIS:—"Schomberg crossed the river at the head of his cavalry, and after defeating eight squadrons of the enemy, he went to rally the French Protestants, who had lost their commander, and while leading them on to the charge, a party of King James's Guards which had been separated from the rest, meeting with Schomberg in attempting to rejoin their own army, they attacked him with great fury, and wounded him in the head in two places. As the wounds were not dangerous he might have recovered from them, but the French Protestants, thinking their General was killed, immediately fired upon the Guards, but in doing so unfortunately they shot Duke Schomberg dead."

His remains were brought to Dublin and interred with becoming honours in St. Patrick's Cathedral, where a Tablet has been erected to his memory. His sword is in the possession of the Society of "Friendly Brothers," Stephen's Green.

In the year 1736 a monument in the shape of a very pretty obelisk, was erected on the banks of the Boyne near where the Duke fell, on the four sides of which are the following inscriptions :

1. Sacred to the glorious memory of KING WILLIAM THE THIRD, who on the 1st of July, 1690, passed the river near this place to attack James the Second at the head of a popish army, advantageously posted on the south side of it, and did on that day, by a successful battle, secure to us and to our posterity, our liberty, laws, and religion. In consequence of this action James the Second left this kingdom and fled to France.
2. Duke Schomberg in passing this river died bravely fighting in defence of liberty. July First, MDCLXXX.
3. This memorial of our deliverance was erected in the ninth year of the reign of King George the Second. The first stone being laid by Lionel Sackville, Duke of Dorset, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.
4. This monument was erected by the grateful contributions of several Protestants of Great Britain and Ireland. MDCCXXVI.

Page 15. Note E.

This version of "The Boyne Water" is in universal use among the Orangemen of Ireland, and is the only one now sung by them. It is not, however, the original song written two centuries ago. Fragments of the old "Boyne Water" are still remembered in the north, and Samuel MacSkimin, the historian of Carrickfergus, had hopes at one time of being able to form a complete copy from the snatches yet recited among the Orange yeomen of Down and Antrim. The date of the present song is unknown, and it supplanted the original so completely in common use that enquiries on the subject were not instituted until too late to be successful. But its plainness, vigour, and minute details prove it to be of an early date.

With reference to the day on which this famous battle was fought there is a curious custom in Ulster as to the digging of early potatoes. Some Roman Catholics there would on no account commence digging their new potatoes on a 12th of July, and have been known to say they would rather fast altogether for twenty-four hours than dig on "King William's day," while on the other hand no matter how ripe or fit for digging their early potatoes may be, many Ulster Protestants would not think of digging them *before* "the 12th." To testify their veneration for the hero of the Boyne the digging of early potatoes is postponed until the 12th *arrives*. Others whose potatoes don't be fully ripe on that day dig their first meal *on* the 12th in honour of the day set apart for commemorating King William's victory. Many Protestants also have been known to root or pick potatoes out of the ground with their fingers rather than have the *appearance* of "digging" before the appointed day arrives, and if seen doing so will tell the reason.—*U. Magazine*.

Page 17. Note F.

Having been successful at the Boyne, William determined to perfect his victory by taking Drogheda before he would march on Dublin. Early next morning, therefore, he sent one of his Generals (La Melloniere) with 1,000 cavalry, 300 infantry, and 8 pieces of cannon to summon Drogheda to surrender. The Governor at first hesitated, but on being informed that if the artillery once played upon the town no quarter would afterwards be given, he then quickly surrendered. The conditions were—"the garrison to march out without their arms, and forthwith to leave the town with their clothes and their lives only." The entire garrison, consisting of 1,300 soldiers, marched out accordingly, their destination being Athlone; and William got possession of the town, with all arms, both large and small, and a great quantity of ammunition, and provisions of all kinds that were stored within it.

Page 21. Note G.

The Parliament met on the 30th of December, 1701, and Mr. Harley being elected Speaker, the King opened it with the following Speech from the Throne :—

“MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

“I promise myself you are met together full of that just sense of the common danger of Europe, and the resentment of the late proceedings of the French King, which has been so fully and universally expressed in the loyal and seasonable addresses of my people. The owning and setting up of the pretended Prince of Wales for King of England is not only the highest indignity offered to me and the Nation but does so nearly concern every man who has a regard for the Protestant religion or the present and future quiet and happiness of his country that I need not press you to lay it seriously to heart, and to consider what further effectual means may be used for securing the succession of the Crown in the Protestant line, and extinguishing the hopes of all pretenders and their open and secret abettors. By the French King’s placing his grandson on the Throne of Spain he is in a condition to oppress the rest of Europe unless speedy and effectual measures be taken. Under this pretence he is become the real master of the whole Spanish Monarchy, he has made it to be entirely depending on France, and disposes of it as of his own dominions, and by that means has surrounded his neighbours in such a manner that, though the name of peace may be said to continue, yet they are put to the expense and inconveniences of a war. This must affect England in the nearest and most sensible manner in respect to our trade, which will soon become precarious in all the valuable branches of it in respect to our peace and safety at home, which we cannot hope should long continue; and in respect to that part which England ought to take in the preservation of the liberty of Europe in order to obviate the general calamity with which the rest of Christendom is threatened by this exorbitant power of France, I have concluded several Alliances, according to the encouragement given me by both Houses of Parliament, which I will direct shall be laid before you, and which I doubt not you will enable me to make good. There are some other treaties still depending, that shall be likewise communicated to you as soon as they are perfected.

It is fit I should tell you the eyes of all Europe are upon this Parliament; all matters are at a stand till your resolutions are known, and therefore no time ought to be lost. You have yet an opportunity, by God’s blessing, to secure to you and your posterity the quiet enjoyment of your Religion and Liberties, if you are not wanting to yourselves, but will exert the ancient vigour of the English Nation; but I tell you plainly my opinion is, if you do not lay hold on this occasion you have no reason to hope for another. In order to do your part it will be necessary to have a great strength at sea, and to provide for the security of our ships in harbour, and also that there be such a force at land as is expected in proportion to the forces of our allies.

“GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—

“I do recommend these matters to you with that concern and earnestness which their importance requires, at the same time I cannot but press you to take care of the public credit, which cannot be preserved but by keeping sacred that maxim, ‘That they shall never be losers who trust to a Parliamentary security.’ It is always with regret when I do ask aids of my people, but you will observe that I desire nothing which relates to any personal expense of my own. I am only pressing you to do all you can for your own safety and honour at so critical and so dangerous a time, and am willing that what is given should be wholly appropriated to the purposes for which it is intended. And since I am speaking on this head I think it proper to put you in mind that during the late war I ordered the accounts to be laid yearly before the Parliament, and also gave my assent to several Bills for taking the public accounts, that my subjects might have the satisfaction to know how the money given for the war was applied, and I am willing that matter may be put in any further way of examination that it may appear whether there were any misapplications and mismanagements, or whether the debt that remains

upon us has really arisen from the shortness of the supplies or the deficiency of the funds. I have already told you how necessary dispatch will be for carrying on that great public business whereon our safety and all that is valuable to us depends. I hope what time can be spared will be employed about those other very desirable things which I have so often recommended from the Throne, I mean the forming some good Bills for employing the poor, for encouraging trade, and the further suppressing of vice.

“MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—

“I hope you are come together determined to avoid all manner of disputes and differences, and resolved to act with a general and hearty concurrence for promoting the common cause, which alone can make this a happy session. I should think it as great a blessing as could befall England if I could observe you as much inclined to lay aside those unhappy fatal animosities which divide and weaken you, as I am disposed to make all my subjects safe and easy as to any, even the highest offences, committed against me. Let me conjure you to disappoint the only hopes of our enemies by your unanimity. I have shown, and will always show, how desirous I am to be the common father of all my people, do you in like manner lay aside parties and divisions; let there be no other distinction heard of amongst us for the future, but of those who are for the Protestant Religion and the present Establishment, and of those who mean a Popish Prince and a French Government. I will only add this, if you do in good earnest desire to see England hold the balance of Europe and to be indeed at the head of the Protestant interest, it will appear by your right improving of the present opportunity.”

The Lords immediately drew up a warm and affectionate address, in which they expressed their disapproval of the proceedings of the French King, and assured His Majesty they would assist him to the utmost of their power against all his enemies, and in upholding the reputation of the English name, “when engaged under so great a Prince, in the glorious cause of maintaining the liberty of Europe.”

An address to the same effect was presented by the Commons, and both met with a very gracious reception from His Majesty.



B 15

